DENALI COMMISSION



510 'L' Street, Suite 410 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

(907) 271-1414 Fax (907) 271-1415 Toll free 1-888-480-4321 www.denali.gov

October 3, 2002

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Denali Commission Primary Care Projects – Fiscal Year 03

This NOFA announces the availability, as of mid-January 2003, of approximately \$30 to 35 Million in FY03 Commission funding for primary care projects.

The Commission has taken into consideration the difficulty that many organizations experienced in competing for FY02 primary care funding. Consequently, we have attempted to simplify the request for proposal (RFP) process and the project funding process, yet maintain the Commission's desired principles of funding sustainable projects that are construction ready and serve a high needs population. Some examples follow:

- 1. We have separated the business plan development from the RFP application, so the RFP is streamlined and mainly asks questions of project readiness.
- 2. We are in the process of developing a business plan template and site plan checklist for use by communities and organizations. It should be available by mid-October 2002 on the Commission's website.
- 3. We have assembled a technical assistance sub-committee (part of the Commission's Health Steering Committee) to provide guidance to communities and organizations to address the business plan requirements and provide support during the conceptual planning and design project phases for organizations approved for conceptual planning funds.
- 4. We have streamlined the design funding process for "Small" Clinic applicants. Once organizations or communities have successfully (completed) an approved clinic business plan and site plan checklist (through the technical assistance sub-committee) they can move forward to the design phase without reapplying.
- 5. Lastly, the purpose of issuing a single NOFA for the primary care program is to allow communities and organizations to apply for primary care facility funding when they are ready throughout the fiscal year.

All necessary materials for applying for Commission primary care funding can be found on the website at www.denali.gov under the Health Facilities tab. You should find the following four documents:

- 1. Application for FY03 Funding for Primary Care Facilities
- 2. 2000 U.S. Census Update of Distressed Community Criteria July 2002
- 3. Template Clinic Business Plan (to be completed and posted in mid-October 2002)
- 4. Site Plan Checklist (to be completed and posted in mid-October 2002)

These four documents will assist you in preparing an application for primary care funding. If you cannot access these documents through the internet, please submit a request in writing to the Commission to mail these documents to you. Fax requests will be accepted. Please do not request the application by phone.

Some features of the FY03 primary care funding process that may be of interest.

- 1. There are no deadlines. Applications will be accepted during the entire fiscal year.. However, applications for design and construction funding will be accepted only from organizations with an approved clinic business plan and site plan checklist. These two products will be available in mid-October 2002.
- 2. The technical assistance subcommittee will review and approve the business plans and site plan checklists.
- 3. As the subcommittee is presently occupied with responding to almost 40 organizations approved for conceptual planning funding (FY02), we will not be accepting applications for conceptual planning funds until this backlog has been addressed.
- 4. We will accept and review clinic business plans and site plan checklists that organizations undertake with their own funding and resources. This will allow organizations that wish to apply directly for design and/or construction funding to move their project forward.
- 5. The Commission with the assistance from the Health Steering Committee may formulate procedures that will allow regional not-for-profit organizations to undertake conceptual planning efforts for their representative communities, if local approval is provided. The details of this and applications workshops will be forthcoming and will be posted on the Commission's website.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Joel Neimeyer at the Denali Commission numbers provided above, or contact Ms. Pat Carr with the Alaska Division of Public Health at (907) 465-8618.

Sincerely,

Karen Pearson

Chair, Denali Commission

Karen E Pearson

Health Steering Committee